

Agency Activity Inventory by Agency

Appropriation Period: 2005-07 Activity Version: Governor Gregoire's 05-07 Proposal

Agency: 190 - Board of Indust Insurance Appeals

Administration

This activity provides the administrative functions of the Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality and productivity of our workforce

Category: Activities that improve outcomes across all workforce strategies

FY 2006				FY 2007			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$70,000	\$0	\$70,000	0.5	\$86,000	\$0	\$86,000	0.5

Expected Results:

Administration supports the other activities of the agency.

Hearings

The Hearings Section schedules and conducts formal hearings on all contested issues raised in an appeal. Hearings are formal legal proceedings following the civil rules applicable in the superior courts of Washington. At the conclusion of the hearings and the closing of the record, a judge will issue a written proposed decision and order containing findings of fact and conclusions of law on all contested issues. (Worker/Community Right to Know Account, Accident Account, Medical Aid Account)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality and productivity of our workforce

Category: Return unemployed, underemployed or injured workers to work

FY 2006				FY 2007			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$9,242,000	\$0	\$9,242,000	88.0	\$9,427,000	\$0	\$9,427,000	87.5

Expected Results:

All hearings will be scheduled and held within six months of assignment to the judge. The proposed decision and order will be issued no later than 60 days after the close of the record and receipt of all transcripts and depositions.

Mediation

The Mediation Program focuses on assisting parties in understanding the appeal process and reaching an agreed resolution, if possible. Unrepresented appellants are given an opportunity to discuss the issues involved in their appeal in an informal setting with a judge and a representative from the other party. Judges are trained mediators who have extensive knowledge of workers' compensation and other areas of the law, as well as in the practices and procedures of the Board. These skills and specialized knowledge are used to assist the parties in exploring options for resolution of the appeal. (Accident Account, Medical Aid Account)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality and productivity of our workforce

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FY 2006				FY 2007			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$3,138,000	\$0	\$3,138,000	36.3	\$3,096,000	\$0	\$3,096,000	36.3

Expected Results:

Schedule and hold the first mediation event within six weeks of assignment to the judge. Resolve appeal by agreement of the parties or send on to hearings within 100 days of assignment to the judge. Orders on agreement of the parties will be issued within three business days.

New Industrial Insurance Appeals Assessment

The New Appeals Section handles all aspects of the initial receipt and processing of new appeals received by the agency. Determinations are made whether to grant or deny appeals. Jurisdictional problems are identified and a jurisdictional history of the claim is developed. This history is used in mediation and hearings to establish the legal authority of the agency to hear the appeal. The section works closely with the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) in assessing whether documents are protests, which are handled by L&I, or formal appeals. (Accident Account, Medical Aid Account)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality and productivity of our workforce

Category: Return unemployed, underemployed or injured workers to work

FY 2006				FY 2007			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,882,000	\$0	\$1,882,000	22.0	\$1,858,000	\$0	\$1,858,000	22.0

Expected Results:

Issue grant order within ten days of receipt of appeal file from the Department of Labor and Industries. Issue deny order within ten days of receipt of appeal file from the Department of Labor and Industries.

Review

If a party disagrees with the proposed decision issued by a hearing judge, the party can petition the three-member board to review the decision. In the review program, judges assist board members in determining the appropriate action to take on petitions. Judges review the petition and the entire record of proceedings, then make recommendations to the board. If the board votes to review a proposed decision, the review judge will draft the final decision and order for the board members' approval. (Accident Account, Medical Aid Account)

Statewide Result Area: Improve the quality and productivity of our workforce

Category: Return unemployed, underemployed or injured workers to work

FY 2006				FY 2007			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$1,040,000	\$0	\$1,040,000	12.5	\$1,026,000	\$0	\$1,026,000	12.5

Expected Results:

Review judge will perform complete file review and provide memo with recommendations to board members within ten days of receipt of petition for review. Provide draft of decision and order to board members within 40 days of order granting the petition for review.

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Compensation Cost Adjustment

This item reflects proposed compensation and benefit cost adjustments that were not allocated to individual agency activities. The agency will assign these costs to the proper activities after the budget is enacted.

Statewide Result Area: Improve the ability of State Government to achieve its results efficiently and effectively

Category: Human resources support for government agencies

FY 2006				FY 2007			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$326,000	\$0	\$326,000	0.0	\$326,000	\$0	\$326,000	0.0

Middle Management Reduction

The Governor has directed that middle management be reduced by 1,000 positions by the end of the biennium. This item is this agency's share of the statewide amount. These savings will be assigned to the appropriate activities after the budget is enacted.

Statewide Result Area: Improve the ability of State Government to achieve its results efficiently and effectively

Category: Human resources support for government agencies

FY 2006				FY 2007			
Total	GFS	Other	FTEs	Total	GFS	Other	FTEs
\$(20,000)	\$0	\$(20,000)	(0.4)	\$(58,000)	\$0	\$(58,000)	(1.0)